

Deborah Dodge—Despite personal obstacles, Deborah has gone above and beyond in single-handedly providing care to her adult son for the last 12 years. Deborah's son is severely ill, and requires 24/7 care. She has served on the Northern Virginia Mental Health Board, and is an exceptional caretaker and maintains her positive and cheerful attitude despite the hardships that she faces.

I congratulate today's winners and recognize each of them for their devotion and personal sacrifices. These individuals are examples of the many thousands of caregivers who put the needs of their families, friends and colleagues above their own. I also would like to applaud the efforts of LifeCircle Alliances. As a strong advocate for public-private partnerships, I commend LifeCircle Alliances for its creative approach to addressing these very important challenges within our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to today's awardees and in thanking the volunteers, staff, and partners of LifeCircle Alliance for their efforts in providing assistance to not only those in need of care, but to those who provide the care here in our community.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. RANDY HULTGREN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 13, 2011*

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 904, the RECORD indicates that had I been present, I would have voted "no." This is a mistake. The RECORD should indicate that had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

#### COMMENDING ANTHONY GRIFFIN FOR RECEIVING CAREER EXCELLENCE AWARD

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 13, 2011*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the many accomplishments of Anthony Griffin and commend him for receiving the International City/County Management Association's Award for Career Excellence in honor of Mark E. Keane. After a career as City Manager for Falls Church, Virginia, Tony came to Fairfax County in 1989.

In 2000 the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, of which I was a member, appointed Tony as County Executive. As County Executive, Tony Griffin managed the day-to-day operations of a jurisdiction with more than 1 million residents and more than 11,000 employees. Tony provided over Fairfax County during some of its more challenging times including 9/11, the 2001 anthrax attacks, the Beltway Sniper, Hurricane Isabel, the flooding of Cameron Run in 2006, the 2007 recession, Hurricane Irene, and Tropical Storm Lee. Throughout it all, he has continued to provide outstanding leadership to Fairfax. During his tenure, *Governing Magazine* named Fairfax County its Best Managed County in the Country. Fairfax has won numerous e-government awards including the Digital Counties Survey

and the Best of the Web. Time Magazine referred to Fairfax as, "the economic success story of our time."

I was pleased to work with Tony Griffin during my 13 years on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and I know the value he brought. I urge my colleagues and the residents of Fairfax County, Virginia to join me in commending Anthony Griffin for receiving this Award for Career Excellence, and thank him for his years of dedication to making Fairfax a safe and vibrant community to live and work.

#### HONORING THE SHORT LIFE OF ANGELO ZOLTAN SCHWARTZ

#### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 13, 2011*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I am honored, yet saddened today to come to the floor to honor the short life of Angelo Zoltan Schwartz. The son of Lawrence Sanson Schwartz IV and his wife Allison, Angelo suffered from a rare bone disease, Osteogenesis Imperfecta (OI). He was born on Monday, November 28, 2011 at 11:29 a.m., just one minute after his twin sister Cecilia Anne Schwartz. Angelo was 4 pounds 15 ounces and was delivered at INOVA Fairfax Hospital in Virginia.

OI, which is a condition causing extremely fragile bones, was the main cause of Angelo's shortened life. Due to this condition his rib cage was fractured in utero and he succumbed to respiratory failure on December 1, 2011 at 3:45 a.m. Over his 64 hours of life, Angelo made a huge impact on everyone who met him, including the nursing and hospital administration staff, who worked together to modify hospital policy to ensure that the Schwartz family could spend as much time together as possible.

Angelo is loved and will be missed by his entire family including his grandparents, Debrah and Barry Shulman of Fayetteville, New York; Joanne and Lawrence Schwartz III of Anaheim Hills, California; and his parents Allison and Lawrence Schwartz IV, and his sister Cecilia Anne Schwartz of Alexandria, Virginia.

#### TO RECOGNIZE THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MANTUA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 13, 2011*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of Mantua Elementary School. For half a century, Mantua Elementary has provided its students with a superior education and a solid foundation for lifelong learning and becoming productive and responsible citizens.

The school and community have a shared vision for elementary education based on Ernest Boyer's "Basic School" philosophy paired with tenets from DuFour's Professional Learning Communities. As part of the Basic School Network, Mantua focuses on proven elemen-

tary best practices; the school as a community, a curriculum with coherence, a climate for learning, and a commitment to character. Teachers and specialists at each grade level work in professional learning teams to assess their students' needs and design integrated curricula using the Basic School's eight commonalities: life cycle, use of symbols, group membership, time and space, the aesthetic, nature, producing and consuming, and living with purpose.

In addition, Mantua Elementary School offers programs in English for Speakers of Other Languages, Special Education for students who need additional assistance, Advanced Academics for exceptionally gifted and talented students, and Total Communication for students who are deaf or hearing impaired. These specialized programs when combined with the school's core educational philosophy ensure that every student is given access to a quality education. The result has been an award winning school and a vibrant, academically charged atmosphere that has enabled the children of our community to excel.

Mantua Elementary School has greatly benefitted under the leadership of its principal, Ms. Jan-Marie Fernandez, who has held this position since 2000. Ms. Fernandez is credited with applying brain-based research to instruction methods in order to improve literacy development for students with learning disabilities, and focus and attention issues. This innovative approach was one factor in Ms. Fernandez being named the 2010 Distinguished Principal by the Virginia Association of Elementary School Principals. As the parent of a child who attended Mantua Elementary School, I have personally witnessed her effectiveness as an administrator and an educator. She has led this large, very diverse school to great success and I thank her for her dedication and commitment to the students and to the community as a whole.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Mantua Elementary School on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary and in congratulating the students, educators, administrators, and parents on working together as a team for the benefit of all.

#### HONORING JUDGE ELMER DAVIES, JR.

#### HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 13, 2011*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, There are citizens making up this great country who never cease to explore, to learn, to grow. Skilled in multiple crafts, these men and women add much to our communities and the quality of our lives. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and legacy of one such Renaissance man, Judge Elmer Davies, Jr. Patriot, master of the law, and passionate culinary artist, Judge Davies left an indelible mark on his family and our community.

After receiving his law degree from Tulane Law School, and serving as a Reserve Colonel with the United States Marine Corps, Davies began his public service in the legal field and followed in the footsteps of his father, Judge Elmer Davies. President Roosevelt appointed Davies, Sr. to the United States District Court and he became the first Chief